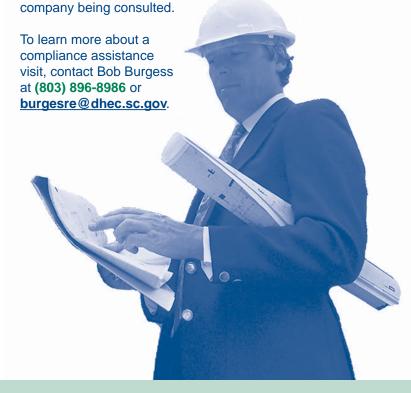# DHEC promotes compliance assistance

COLUMBIA, SC – The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) Center for Waste Minimization (CWM) is adding a new tool to its industrial assistance tool kit – compliance assistance.

"The goal is to help increase awareness among business owners and plant managers about regulatory and compliance issues," said Bob Burgess, CWM director. "We'll help identify resources available to companies to answer questions and provide support as well as review communication techniques and make recommendations on ways to reduce or eliminate waste streams that may be contributing to an environmental problem."

The benefits of compliance assistance are many. The program can:

- help companies avoid discharges that may harm land, air and water resources;

- provide pollution prevention and waste reduction activities that may decrease amounts of waste being landfilled or incinerated;

- identify options for companies that are in danger of outgrowing their current waste management controls to avoid potential contamination; and

- help lower future environmental risks by offering strategies that minimize waste and maximize material use efficiency.

As with its waste assessments, CWM staff will answer questions about regulatory issues and concerns in order to help a business stay in or achieve compliance with existing rules. Staff also can identify a myriad of resources available to companies, including DHEC and related trade association seminars, publications, and Internet resources. In some cases, staff can identify another company that has addressed a similar environmental challenge to serve as a mentor for the company being consulted.

To learn more about a compliance assistance visit, contact Bob Burgess at **(803) 896-8986** or **burgesre@dhec.sc.gov**.

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